

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - March 2009

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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LAKE MICHIGAN

LM SHEBOYGAN WI TO WINTHROP HARBOR IL EWD BYD 5NM TO MID LINE OF LAKE COUNTY --- 1.2 NNE SHEBOYGAN [43.77, -87.71]

03/24/09 23:42 CST	0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 55 kt)
03/24/09 23:42 CST	0	Source: C-MAN Station

A powerful thunderstorm wind gust affected the Sheboygan port area. No damage was reported.

A line of intense rain showers with isolated thunderstorms moved out over Lake Michigan and quickly fell apart. However, one powerful wind gust was observed in the Sheboygan port area.

WISCONSIN, Southeast

(WI-Z066) MILWAUKEE

03/02/09 00:00 CST	0	Lake-Effect Snow
03/02/09 16:00 CST	0	

A narrow but intense band of lake-effect snow showers moved onshore over Central and Southern Milwaukee County at the start of the calendar day of March 2nd. The most intense portion of the snow band extended from downtown Milwaukee through south-central Milwaukee County, and remained nearly stationary overnight and through much of the morning on March 2nd. The band then drifted west and dissipated during the late morning and afternoon. Locations under the stationary band reported 6 to 10 inches of snow, with General Mitchell International Airport measuring 14.4 inches of dry, fluffy snow. Snowfall amounts tapered off rapidly away from the center of the narrow band. Three inches of snow accumulated in the one-hour time period from 0000CST to 0100CST at the airport. Several flights at the airport were delayed. Accumulations at the western border of Milwaukee County were less than an inch. Oak Creek picked up 10 to 13 inches, Cudahy measured 10 inches, the eastern part of Franklin came in with 6 to 8 inches, and Shorewood picked up 6 inches.

(WI-Z058) DODGE, (WI-Z059) WASHINGTON, (WI-Z060) OZAUKEE, (WI-Z062) IOWA, (WI-Z064) JEFFERSON, (WI-Z066) MILWAUKEE, (WI-Z070) WALWORTH, (WI-Z071) RACINE, (WI-Z072) KENOSHA

03/07/09 17:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
03/08/09 03:00 CST	0	

Saturated low levels from earlier rains along a nearly stationary boundary across northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin combined with cooling temperatures to produce widespread dense fog over most of Southeast Wisconsin and a portion of South Central Wisconsin during the evening of March 7th and lasting into the early morning hours of March 8th. The lowest visibilities fell to between 1/8 mile and 1/4 mile.

(WI-Z046) MARQUETTE, (WI-Z047) GREEN LAKE, (WI-Z051) FOND DU LAC, (WI-Z052) SHEBOYGAN, (WI-Z056) SAUK, (WI-Z057) COLUMBIA, (WI-Z058) DODGE, (WI-Z063) DANE

03/08/09 12:00 CST	0	Winter Storm
03/08/09 19:30 CST	0	

A deepening surface low pressure system tracked across northern Illinois into southern lower Michigan. The low produced a band of heavy snow and gusty winds across portions of South-central and East-central Wisconsin. A period of freezing rain deposited 0.10 to 0.20 of an inch of ice before changing over to all snow. Maximum snowfall totals of 6 to 7 inches fell across northwest Fond Du Lac, Green Lake, and Marquette counties. Snow totals in the counties of Sauk, Columbia, northern Dane, Dodge, and Sheboygan were only in the 2 to 5 inch range due to a mixture of rain, sleet, and freezing rain changing to snow. There were several media reports of broken tree branches, felled trees, and some scattered power outages due to the weight of the wet snow and freezing rain along with gusty winds to 30 to 35 knots (40 mph). An isolated gust to 55 knots (64 mph) was measured at the Sheboygan County Airport (KSBM) at 1513CST. In Sheboygan County the Sheriff Department reported at least a dozen vehicle accidents due to slippery streets and driving too fast for road conditions, and there were 19 reports of trees or branches down on power-lines in this county. Near Theresa in northeast Dodge County, a roll-over resulted in one injury (indirectly related).

(WI-Z052) SHEBOYGAN, (WI-Z056) SAUK, (WI-Z057) COLUMBIA, (WI-Z059) WASHINGTON, (WI-Z060) OZAUKEE, (WI-Z062) IOWA, (WI-Z065) WAUKESHA, (WI-Z066) MILWAUKEE, (WI-Z067) LAFAYETTE, (WI-Z068) GREEN, (WI-Z070) WALWORTH, (WI-Z071) RACINE

03/10/09 09:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
03/10/09 18:00 CST	0	

Abundant low level moisture from earlier rains and light winds with a weak pressure gradient as a surface low tracked across the region combined to produce dense fog during the afternoon of March 10th. Visibilities fell to 1/4 mile.

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
ROCK COUNTY --- 0.2 NW EDGERTON [42.83, -89.07], 3.6 ENE (JVL)ROCK CO ARPT JA [42.64, -88.97]				
	03/24/09 21:00 CST		25K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
	03/24/09 21:10 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

Powerful thunderstorm wind gusts leveled many large trees, and blew down a pole shed that had 30 cows inside.

JEFFERSON COUNTY --- 4.0 SW FT ATKINSON [42.89, -88.91], 1.0 W FT ATKINSON [42.93, -88.87]				
	03/24/09 21:25 CST		2K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
	03/24/09 21:30 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

A 30-foot tall tree was snapped and uprooted in Rock River Park, and several other trees were toppled in the area southwest and west of Ft. Atkinson. In addition, some of the toppled trees and broken branches knocked down a couple power-lines that resulted in the loss of electrical power to 300 customers.

KENOSHA COUNTY --- 2.0 N DOWNTOWN KENOSHA [42.61, -87.83]				
	03/24/09 23:10 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
	03/24/09 23:10 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

A couple street signs and fencing were damaged and several large trees were uprooted by powerful thunderstorm wind gusts.

A narrow band of intense rain showers with isolated thunderstorms ahead of a cold front moved rapidly from west to east across Southern Wisconsin during the late evening hours of March 24th. Outflow winds from individual cells within the band produced powerful thunderstorm wind gusts that resulted in tree and structural damage. This was the 1st severe weather episode in South-central and Southeast Wisconsin for the 2009 season.

(WI-Z052) SHEBOYGAN, (WI-Z059) WASHINGTON, (WI-Z060) OZAUCKEE, (WI-Z064) JEFFERSON, (WI-Z065) WAUKESHA, (WI-Z066) MILWAUKEE, (WI-Z069) ROCK, (WI-Z070) WALWORTH, (WI-Z071) RACINE, (WI-Z072) KENOSHA				
	03/28/09 16:00 CST		0	Winter Storm
	03/29/09 10:00 CST		0	

Strong low pressure tracked northeast from southeast Missouri to southeast Lower Michigan during the night of March 28th into the morning of March 29th. Maximum snowfall totals of 6 to 8 inches were recorded over Racine, Kenosha, and far southern Milwaukee counties. Specific accumulations included 8.3 inches 2NE of Sturtevant, 7.5 inches in Paddock Lake (Kenosha Co.), 6.5 inches in the northwest part of Franklin (Milwaukee Co.), an estimated 6 inches in the Muskego area (Waukesha Co.), 5 inches in Whitewater (Walworth Co.), 4.5 inches in Germantown (Washington Co.), and 3 to 4 inches in far southern Jefferson County and far northeastern Rock County. Spotters reported thundersnow near the city of Racine around 0500CST on the 29th, with wind gusts in excess of 40 mph near Lake Michigan creating near-blizzard conditions at times. While snow amounts to the north and west were less, a mixture of sleet, rain, freezing rain, and snow created very hazardous driving conditions. Ice accumulations of 0.10 of an inch, and sleet accumulations between 1/2 inch to 1 inch were reported during the course of the storm. The media reported dozens of vehicle accidents due to slippery road surfaces. In Richfield (Washington Co.) a 2-vehicle accident resulted in 3 fatalities and 4 injuries (all indirectly-related). In the City of Milwaukee (Milwaukee Co.) three men died while shoveling the heavy snow (indirectly-related). We Energies reported 13,000 customers lost electricity due to weather related damage in parts of Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha counties.

(WI-Z051) FOND DU LAC, (WI-Z056) SAUK, (WI-Z057) COLUMBIA, (WI-Z058) DODGE, (WI-Z062) IOWA, (WI-Z063) DANE, (WI-Z067) LAFAYETTE, (WI-Z068) GREEN				
	03/28/09 16:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	03/29/09 10:00 CST		0	

Strong low pressure tracked northeast from southeast Missouri to southeast Lower Michigan during the night of March 28th into the morning of March 29th. Maximum snowfall totals of 4 inches were recorded over Fond Du Lac, Iowa and northern Lafayette counties. Specific accumulations included 4.1 inches 2NE of Darlington (Lafayette Co.), and in Deforest (Dane Co.); 4.0 inches 2SW Fond Du Lac, 1NE Baraboo (Sauk Co.), and Mineral Point (Iowa Co.); 3.5 inches in Beaver Dam (Dodge Co.); 3.0 inches at Monroe (Green Co.); and 2.0 inches in Portage and Wisconsin Dells (Columbia Co.). Along with these snow amounts, a mixture of sleet, rain, freezing rain, and snow created very hazardous driving conditions. Ice accumulations of 0.10 of an inch, and sleet accumulations between 1/2 inch to 1 inch were reported during the course of this winter weather event. The media reported dozens of vehicle accidents due to slippery road surfaces. Near Darlington (Lafayette Co.) a 2-vehicle accident resulted in 1 fatality and 1 injury (both indirectly-related); while another 2-vehicle accident resulted in two fatalities and one injury near the village of Cobb in Iowa County (all indirectly-related). Greater snow amounts in an associated winter storm event occurred at the same time over Southeast Wisconsin.